

- A. Number of land oustees in WCL : 7654
- B. Number of land oustees entitled for jobs : 5119
- C. Number of land losers provided employment : 4710
- D. Balance land oustees to be provided employment in WCL : 409

(d) All clear cases have been provided employment. 409 cases are pending on account of non-submission of nomination and disputes among land oustees themselves.

(e) and (f) During 1996-97, 12 such representations were received by the Government. All of these were about not providing compensation and jobs in lieu of land acquired. Company has been advised to take necessary action in the matter. Five of these representations received through VIPs, are being followed up for intimation of action taken.

Information Services Project

6530. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned a project from Bloomberg L.P. USA for 100% Indian subsidiary to operate value-added electronics information services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) M/s. Bloomberg, L.P., USA, has been granted foreign collaboration approval on 7th August, 1996, to set up a 100% wholly owned subsidiary to operate electronic information services such as data services, audio text services, video text services, with foreign equity participation 100% amounting to Rs. 160.00 lakhs subject to the condition that the company would not undertake any activity which falls within the category of "Value Added Services" as defined under the Policy of Department of Telecommunications. The proposal also involves an agreement with Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) to use a leased network on mutually acceptable commercial terms.

Basundhara Coal Mines

6531. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the grade of coal available in Basundhara Coal Mines at Gopalpur in Sundargarh district of Orissa;

(b) the target fixed for lifting coal from the said coal mines during 1997-98; and

(c) the major consumers identified or proposal before the Government for the disposal of coal from these mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The grade of coal of Basundhara East project of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL) in Orissa has been assessed as "F".

(b) The target of coal despatches from this project for the year 1997-98 is 0.48 million tonnes.

(c) Presently, road-linked consumers of lb coalfields like Hirakud Power Company Ltd., Hirakud and Jindal Strips Ltd., Raigarh will get coal supply from this mine. Besides, coal is being offered under Liberalised Sale Scheme to any consumer. Maharashtra State Electricity Board and Tamil Nadu Electricity Board may also receive supplies subject to creation of transportation facilities.

Trade with Gulf Countries

6532. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to widen the scope of export and import with Gulf countries during 1997-98; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is trying to widen the scope of bilateral trade between India and Gulf countries through various trade promotion measures including facilitation of establishment of business level contacts between India and the Gulf trading partners exchange of commercial information/delegations, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, diversification of our export basket to include non-traditional items.

(c) Does not arise.

Supply of Coal

6533. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to speed up clearing the supply of washed coal for power project of Hinduja House at Visakhapatnam; and